THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) : (a) and (b) In view of the difficult financial problems of the State, the Centre has allowed in October, 1994 additional special plan assistance of Rs. 773 crores to the Government of Jammu & Kashmir to meet the resource gap for the year 1994-95. Ministry of Finance has started releasing the amount of Rs. 773 crores of special assistance after making recovery of Rs. 668 40 crores due from the State Government towards loan repayment and interest payment to the Ministry of Finance. Approved plan outlay of Jammu & Kashmir for the year 1994-95 is Rs. 950 crores.

(c) and (d) There have been reports from time to time of alleged misuse of funds meant for development activities in the State. There is no proposal under consideraton of the Government for appointing any committee to conduct an across-the board inquiry into the allegations. Whenever specific complaints are received, appropriate inquiries are conducted, including inquiries by the Vigilance Department. The State Government have been advised to further strengthen and intensify activities of the Vigilance Department. Government of India has also conveyed its concern to the State Government that proper utilisation of funds should be ensured through close monitoring and supervison of works and enhanced accountability.

Depicting Jamm and Kashmir as Part of Pakistan

2592. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Kashmir is depicted in the World Map as part of Pakistan; if so, what action has been taken in this behalf;

(b) whether it is a fact that Education Minister of Kerala State published "Islamic Vishwa Vijnanakosara" (Islamic Encyclopaedia) which reportedly contains several objectionable entries like a World Map depicting Kashmir as part of Pakistan; and

(c) if so, what are the details of action taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI : In the World Map printed in the Islamic Encyclopaedia in Malayalam (Islam Vignhana Kosham), Jammu & Kashmir has been shown as a region where Muslims are in majority comprising over 50% of the population. The present Education Minister of Kerala is understood to be a member of the Advisory Board under whose guidance the Islamic Encyclopaedia was prepared. The Central Government has written to the State Government of Kerala pointing out several objectionable observations made in the Encyclopaedia and asked them to take appropriate action under law.

Visit of Foreign Teams to Jammu and Kashmir

2593. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) how many foreign teams/official delegations/observers of United Nations visited Jammu and Kashmir State during 1994 till date, and held discussions with State Government officials, All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC), Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF), migrants, etc.;

(b) what was the outcome of their discussions and whether such foreign teams conveyed their observations/feelings to Government of India in order to find some practical solutions to Kashmir crisis by bringing the two countries together to the negotiating table; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take or have taken so far to check increasing Pakistan's direct involvement in the secessionist war in Kashmir and raising Kashmir Issue in almost every International Forums/Conferences ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) : (a) According to information made available by the State Government, around 103 foreigners, including diplomats, parliamentarians, representatives of Human Rights and Humanitarian Groups, etc., visited the State during 1994 (till 30th November), and interacted with Government officials, representative of various political and other groups and individuals, and persons who have migrated from the Kashmir Valley;